Increase of fees and perks of Jabalpur SECL Councillor

†874. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the basis of 250 per cent increase in the fees and perks of its councillor at Jabalpur in one stroke by SECL in the year 2005, which required CIL's approval;

(b) the reasons for not getting approval from CIL for such a huge increase; and

(c) the justification of 250% increase in one stroke?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (c) There is no such post of Councillor in SECL at Jabalpur. However, the fee of the legal Counsel of SECL at Jabalpur was revised in the year 2005, after a gap of 11 years. The revision of fee was done taking into account all relevant factors, namely, experience, fee being paid to Government advocates engaged by SECL whose expericence and qualifications match with that of the Counsel and fee paid to him by other Public Sector Undertakings. The fee was revised with the approval of Coal India Ltd.

Miners killed at the Nagda mine

875. SHRI T. S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of miners killed after being trapped at the Nagda mine of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. near Katras in Jharkhand;

(b) whether an inquiry into the mishap has been held; if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the extent of *ex-gratia* payment made to the next of kin of the deceased and to those seriously injured in the mishap and the other assistance, if any, given to the affected families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Fifty workers lost their lives and four received

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.